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New York, 3-28 July 2006
Item 2 of the provisional agenda*
Creating an environment at the national and international levels conducive to generating full and productive employment and decent work for all, and its impact on sustainable development

Statement submitted by Foundation for Research on Technology Migration and Integration, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* E/2006/100.

06-32329 (E) 100506

Statement

"One dollar for development" — An initiative on strengthening the public administration systems and building the human capital as an essential tool towards generating decent and productive employment in the developing economies

"One dollar for development" was introduced in a formal statement (E/2005/NGO/1) presented to the 2005 ECOSOC NGO Forum, as the E-Government Application Reuse Initiative which seeks to support socio-economic development by bridging the digital gap through North-South cooperation.

With the rise in the number of democracies, the concept is not just limited to elections but focuses on a variety of other forms of citizens' participation in governance. As far as the 'government-citizens' relation is concerned, there is a wide spectrum of interaction from information exchange, and consultation to active participation based on different levels of partnership, which ultimately leads to the concept of good governance as an important pillar for the development of society.

In the context of the developing countries, an important development goal is the creation of adequate employment opportunities, particularly for the youth. This is an area of global concern. ICT has tremendous potential for improving the employment generation aspects.

Access to information is becoming a critical factor by which countries are being judged by the global society as either haves or have-nots — information rich or information poor.

This initiative focuses on strengthening the public administration systems and building the human capital as an essential tool towards generating decent and productive employment in the developing economies. With its emphasis on "Re-use of technology", the project not only has the capacity to develop a nationwide e-governance structure at a fraction of the original cost but also has the potential for employment generation even in rural areas through the information kiosk network, small enterprises that, inter alia, sell telephone-based services, work as "information intermediaries" and that engage in e-commerce-based activities, as well as with telecentres and cable television providers, with equipment such as printers, photo-copiers or satellite dishes, where local youth are finding opportunities for decent and full employment.

With the Dominican Republic as its first pilot country, the project has gathered support for the draft resolution on public administration and development, which was later adopted by the General Assembly at its sixtieth session (General Assembly resolution 60/34).

The project was documented in the commemorative publication of WSIS; the Golden Book is a practical solution to achieve the MDGs using ICT as a tool for development. It was also showcased during the 2nd phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), held in Tunis, 16-18 Nov 2005.

The project fully integrates the values of the 'Global Forum for Reinventing Government' and seeks participation at the 7th Global forum to be hosted by the UN, as it would provide a good opportunity to commemorate the 10th Anniversary

of the Special Session of the UN General Assembly on Public Administration and Development.

The project calls upon all the stakeholders working in the sector of Public Administration/e-governance to work together towards implementation of the initiative as it works toward the greater goal of achieving the MDGs.

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Creating an environment at the national and international levels conducive to generating full and productive employment and decent work for all, and its impact on sustainable development

Statement submitted by Hadassah-Women's Zionist Organization of America, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* E/2006/100.

06-32305 (E) 110506

Statement

Since 2002 the Hadassah Foundation has focused on economic empowerment. Our grantees seek to promote fundamental change by addressing the underlying obstacles that impede the social development of women and girls. The majority of people living in poverty are women and children. Access to financing at affordable rates and appropriate training are the major obstacles that prevent women from becoming entrepreneurs. Thus the Foundation supports programs that provide low-income women with resources and training to enable them to become financially sufficient. For example the Al Zahraa Organization for Women offered empowerment courses for Arab and Israeli women in the Galilee. A Step Forward is a program of Economic Empowerment for Bedouin Women teaching women living in Rahat how to start small businesses in their homes and how to use modern techniques for their traditional sewing and embroidery. The Foundation offers services and training not offered by mainstream institutions. It provides loans at reasonable rates to women who do not have the necessary credit history or collateral.

The Foundation clearly fosters social change for women and girls. It understands that helping women means helping families. The Hadassah Foundation provides the tools for economic self-sufficiency. In one of the programs, co-directed by two women, a *Mizahi* (a Jew from an Arab land) and a Palestinian Israeli, a multicultural "school without walls" was established in which the women learned computer literacy and English. In many of the programs the women receive free legal assistance and information concerning women's rights and privileges under the law. A program aimed at reducing violence against women is located in Haifa. There are other centers which advocate on behalf of sexual abuse. Through innovative and creative funding for women the Hadassah Foundation engages in cutting edge initiative making a difference in the lives of women and girls, empowering them to affect change in their lives and the lives of their families.